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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND WORK FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

February 1973

STATE DOCUMENTS

OCT 1970

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Work Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian work force.

5. Seasonally Adjusted Work Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the work force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

6. Composite Index - an aggregate of four leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs; and Average Weekly Initial Claims. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U.S. Dept. of Commerce. The two indexes do not contain the same data, and the Dept. of Commerce used weighted figures while Montana's index used unweighted figures.

7. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

8. CEP - Concentrated Employment Program.

9. MDTA - Institutional training provided under the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962 as amended.

10. OJT - On the Job Training provided under the MDTA.

11. JOBS "70" - On the Job Training including supportive services.

12. JOP - On the Job Training (Contract effective January 1971).

- EMPLOYMENT -

- UNEMPLOYMENT -

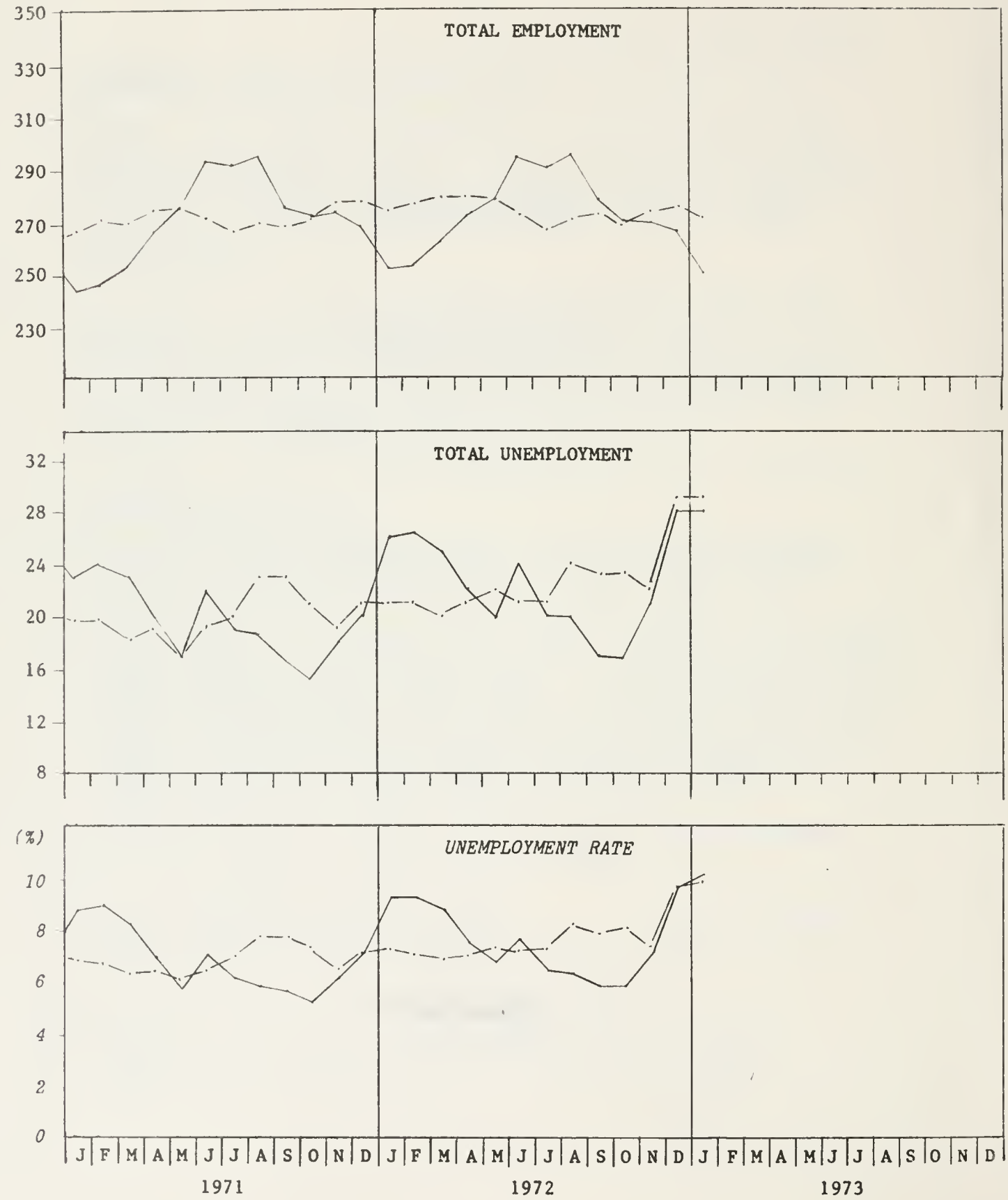
- CIVILIAN WORK FORCE -

FEBRUARY 1973

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(Seasonally Adjusted: .-.-)

1971 - 1973



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET

FEBRUARY 1973

ANACONDA — Anaconda's employment remained stable through February and is expected to brighten with the milder weather. Approximately 40 people were back to work at the local smelter. Other orders for jobs in the area were ranch hands, diesel mechanic, correctional officer, office clerk, bartender, and service station attendants.

BILLINGS — Construction activity was generally slow in the building trades during the past month; however, scattered callbacks were noted as milder weather permitted resumption of outdoor building. Work was started on a 255-unit motel complex with a completion date scheduled for August 1973. Also noted were two other construction projects, a 113-unit apartment house and a trucking warehouse. Hiring in the retail sales and services industry exceeded the previous year as Main Street business remained good. Agricultural hiring was slow due to the mild weather conditions and lack of activity in the livestock sales business.

BOZEMAN — Downtown merchants still are experiencing the normal mid-winter slump in sales. All major construction projects are running on schedule. Two local area sawmills had their normal seasonal cutback in operations affecting approximately 40 workers. The main agricultural activities have been feeding and care of livestock.

BUTTE — Weather moderated this month, allowing outside construction to continue on existing projects at Gregson Hot Springs, a large motel and the Legion Oasis. Many smaller construction projects are nearing completion. The Port of Butte outside building is complete, and inside work is continuing, with the opening expected by March 1. Retail and service industries are steady with very little new hiring.

CUT BANK — Weather during the past month has been above normal with light snow fall and warm temperatures. Factories in Browning are operating at a rapid pace and oilfield activity in the area remains steady. Construction projects include the Browning Junior High School, a new nursing home in Browning and several small remodeling projects. On the agricultural scene sheep shearing and tagging will begin March 1, if the weather permits.

DILLON — Sawmill work and logging remains on a steady basis with 40 men currently employed in the woods and 50 men employed in the mill. Most construction work has been slow because of the weather. There has been very little hiring in the retail and service occupations, and need for livestock feeders is less than in previous years because of lack of snow cover and mechanization.

GLASGOW — Labor market activity during February consisted of the usual winter activity with hiring of truck driver helpers for short term loading and hauling hay, warehouse hands, office help and restaurant work. There has been very little construction work due to the weather and time of year.

GLENDIVE — With mostly good weather the past month local contractors have been able to keep their crews working. Construction of the addition on the grade school is about 50% completed with the outside work. Retail business has been slow during February and oilfield activity has been steady. Farm work has increased some, with the main activities at the present time being livestock care and feeding.

GREAT FALLS A $937,500 grant was approved for the city of Great Falls for a new waste-water treatment plant. Two labor disputes involving 5 employees at a local bottling plant, and 15 local floor-layers continue. Agricultural demands have been steady with calls for general farm and ranch hands for feeding and calving. Wholesale and retail trades have been steady and the local smelter expects no changes in employment for the near future.

HAMILTON Employment activity remained slow in the area despite favorable weather that prevailed most of the month. Some idled construction workers were called back to work this month and others were laid off by contractors who are experiencing trouble in getting cement footings and foundations poured due to weather factors. Although no new construction was reported during the month all indications are that the coming spring and summer should be a banner year for housing construction in the area. Lumber mill employment in the Darby area remained stable but layoffs were noted in the logging industry due to weather conditions and muddy roads. The main agricultural activities are potato sorting and shipping, supplemental feeding and calving. Retail sales and service industries report overall volume slightly higher than at the same period last year.

HAVRE Employment in the agricultural field slowed somewhat this month due to cold weather. Major activities now are for calving, lambing and sheep shearing. A new coffee shop and a new motel plan to be open for business shortly. Wholesale and re and retail trades continued to show a small amount of activity, and exploration drilling remains slow.

HELENA Warmer weather has brought about increased activity in outdoor work. A new $140,000 restaurant opened this month and another is being constructed. Also a new YMCA is in the building process, and a north-side shopping center is in the planning stage. Cleanup and renovation of the downtown area continued this month with the dismantling of some of the older buildings.

KALISPELL Mild weather is benefitting construction, particularly commercial and home building. Some layoffs from retail trade are coming from supper clubs and restaurants. Logging activity was up with improved weather conditions and plywood and sawmills are operating at a relatively high winter-time rate.

LEWISTOWN The area agricultural picture showed a definite pick-up this month and a shortage of farm and ranch hands exists. The local camper manufacturing company is going full force with 14 persons working, and there is a call for miners in the area. Downtown business activity showed an increase during the latter half of February.

LIBBY Good weather in the area during the past month has allowed contractors to go at near full speed on road work, Libby Dam buttress job and selective withdrawal system. All Libby Dam projects are at or near completion. Lumber and logging have held up well this month with no word yet on spring breakup.

LIVINGSTON Work is progressing on the new apartment building and little or no weather delays are expected as the building is now framed in. Retail and wholesale trades are steady and agricultural hiring has picked up as calving time nears.

MILES CITY Construction projects are going as planned as the weather has been unusually warm. A retirement home for the elderly is expected to open by May 1. The rest of the labor market is average for this time of year.

MISSOULA A new shopping complex opened in February employing 200 people. The lumbering industry is continuing very strong with all major mills operating near to current capacity and one pushing to more than double its capacity and employment by year's end. Both price and demand for timber projects are very good. Mild winter weather continued in the area in February allowing construction to be very strong. A new cafe opened at the beginning of the month employing 60 people.

POLSON Sawmill work remained steady during the month with relatively little hiring except for replacement help. Logging remains good with demand for experienced fallers and heel boom operators. Construction is slow, but has more activity than normal for this time of year. Small crews continue to work on all the major projects in the county. Several large building construction projects are planned for the coming season. Cafe and retail trade is also steady. Farm work remains slow, with little going on. Potato processing should begin about the first week in March, depending mainly on the weather.

SHELBY Agriculture has been steady with some calls for single hands for feeding. All other industries are steady with no demands.

SIDNEY General highway construction has been in progress all month with bridge work underway. The local sugar factory continued its normal seasonal layoff as the various phases are completed. Farm jobs are beginning to open up but labor needs are being met at the present time.

THOMPSON FALLS Employment levels in all of the industrial groups are remaining stable. The weather is continuing to hold, and logging operations are at a maximum production and a shortage of fallers exists in the area.

STATE OF MONTANA The civilian work force for January 1973 in Montana was 285,300 as compared to 296,500 in December one month prior, and 280,200 for the same month one year ago. Total employment for the state dropped to 259,000, a decrease of 9,200 from December; however, this was an increase of 5,200 employed over January last year. The unemployment rate for January was 9.2%.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased in January by 5,900 for a total 234.7 thousand which is normal for this time of year. The statewide construction employment dropped slightly from 8.3 thousand in December to 8.1 thousand in January. Construction will begin to pick up in Montana as many projects have begun or are being planned for the near future. Some noted construction projects are a manor for the elderly in Miles City that will employ 50 people when completed, a $290,000 addition to an elementary school in Livingston, a $750,000 hotel recreation complex in Red Lodge, a new shopping complex in Great Falls and a 255-unit motel in Billings.

Mining employment at 6.4 thousand is the same as last month's total but 400 higher than one year ago. More and more tangible evidence continues to mount pointing to the certainty that 1973 will see the most stupendous wildcatting play in Montana's history. Production of crude oil and condensate from the oil and gas areas in Montana for the month of December 1972 averaged 93,433 barrels daily, an increase of 152 barrels from the November 1972 production. During December, 78 wells were completed, 12 oil, 13 gas and 53 dry holes. During December the commission issued 46 permits to drill new wells, a decrease of 32 from the 78 permits issued during November.

STATE OF MONTANA (Cont.) January's employment in the wholesale and retail trades was down slightly from last month's which is a normal seasonal trend. January's total of 60,100 was 3,000 less than in December but 1,800 more than in January of 1972.

Agricultural employment was 24.4 thousand, a 3.2 thousand decrease from December one month ago and a decrease of 700 from the same month last year. Winter wheat was in good condition in the northwest and southcentral regions, fair to good in the north-central region and eastern third, and fair elsewhere at the end of January. Wind damage to winter wheat has been moderate in portions of the central and northeast sections, but light in the remaining portions of the state. Snowcover protection was marginal throughout most of the month, with new snow lasting only a few days.

Cattle and sheep have been maintained in good condition so far this winter. Grazing was open throughout most of the month. About 95 percent of the range livestock were receiving some supplemental feed as January came to a close. Calving, lambing and shearing are about 5 percent complete. Montana's stockmen had 3,197,000 cattle and calves including dairy stock on January 1, 1973. This is 1 percent more than a year earlier. The total value of cattle in Montana on January 1 this year was $911 million - 25 percent more than one year earlier. Sheep and lambs on Montana ranches and farms January 1, 1973 totaled 955,000 head - 4 percent less than a year ago, but Montana still retains its national rank of sixth in number of sheep and lambs. Based on reporters' estimates of average price per head in their localities, the value per head of sheep in Montana increased 19 percent over January 1, 1972. The value of all livestock and poultry was $949 million, up 25 percent from January of last year. Montana's 1972 lamb crop was down 4 percent, a nationwide trend, while its 1972 calf crop was up 4 percent from 1971.

Montana potato growers, local dealers and processors held a total of 1,325,000 cwt. of Irish potatoes in storage on February 1. Current stocks are up 10 percent from a year earlier and account for 80 percent of the 1972 Montana potato production. An estimated 325,000 cwt. was moved out of storage since harvest - 59 percent above last year.

For Montana, the December 1972 volume of bank debits increased 4 percent from December of last year. Debits for the 12 months through December 1972 increased 16 percent from the previous 12-month period. Year end statistics showed gains of more than 10 percent for all but 3 of the 23 state communities reporting during 1972. The highest gain was reported by Kalispell with an increase of 35 percent. Large gains were also noted in Helena, 30 percent; Glasgow, 24 percent; and Anaconda, 23 percent. Smallest gains were noted in Lewistown, with 6 percent, and Butte, 8 percent.

A 50 percent increase in building permits in Billings in December helped Montana finish the year with an almost 20 percent growth over 1971. December's increase from 33 to 50 permits in Billings enabled the city to end the year with a total of 1,191 permits, compared to 801 last year. The state's other Standard Metropolitan Area, Great Falls, showed a slight increase with 889 permits in 1972 from 875 in 1971. For Billings, construction totaled $28.9 million in 1972 and the total valuation for Great Falls was $13.9 million. Some other leading Montana communities and their 1972 building valuations - Anaconda: $1.2 million, Bozeman: $11.6 million, Butte: $4.8 million, Cut Bank: $1.96 million, Glasgow: $744,000, Glendive: $683,000, Hardin: $613,000, Havre: $1.3 million, Kalispell: $4.5 million, Laurel: $644,000, Livingston: $855,000, Malta: $594,000, Miles City: $3.1 million, Missoula: $8.6 million, and Sidney: $708,000.

ANTICIPATED DEVELOPMENTS IN MONTANA'S WORK FORCE

March through May 1973

Montana's unemployment will begin to drop in March as outdoor activities and the tourist season begin. Agriculture, highway construction and building construction will pick up with the better weather conditions. Logging will be an exception to increased employment, due to spring breakup.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

January 1973

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	160	112	646
CEP	31	38	192
MDTA (Inst.)	31	38	267
JOBS	13	13	32
JOP	15	15	78
Job Corps	47	11	180

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED[1/]

January 1973

Social Characteristics	*Percent* of Total Covered Unemployment
Non-White	*3.7%*
Female	*23.9%*
Youth	*8.3%*
Over 45	*33.9%*

1/ *Based on 20% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week including the 19th of each month in all local offices.*

Table I

MONTANA CIVILIAN WORK FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* Montana	U. S.	
1971								
January	269.9	245.8	221.5	24.3	23.7	*8.8*	*6.6*	.4
February	272.7	247.8	222.6	25.2	24.5	*9.0*	*6.6*	.4
March	277.2	254.1	225.9	28.2	23.1	*8.3*	*6.3*	*
April	288.1	267.8	230.3	37.5	20.3	*7.0*	*5.7*	*
May	293.9	276.8	237.3	39.5	17.1	*5.8*	*5.3*	*
June	317.4	294.8	247.6	47.2	22.5	*7.1*	*6.5*	.1
July	319.4	293.8	244.2	49.6	19.8	*6.2*	*6.2*	5.8
August	320.5	295.8	246.2	49.6	18.9	*5.9*	*5.9*	5.8
September	299.0	276.3	243.9	32.4	16.9	*5.7*	*5.8*	5.8
October	288.5	273.1	243.6	29.5	15.3	*5.3*	*5.4*	.1
November	292.8	274.5	243.1	31.4	18.2	*6.2*	*5.7*	.1
December	290.8	269.8	240.9	28.9	20.9	*7.2*	*5.5*	.1
1971 Avg.	294.2	272.5	237.3	35.2	20.2	*6.9*	*5.9*	1.5
1972								
January	279.9	253.8	228.7	25.1	26.0	*9.3*	*6.4*	.1
February	281.0	254.6	229.3	25.3	26.3	*9.3*	*6.4*	.1
March	289.0	263.3	233.4	29.9	25.6	*8.8*	*6.1*	.1
April	296.0	273.5	235.6	37.9	22.4	*7.5*	*5.5*	.1
May	300.4	279.7	240.4	39.3	20.5	*6.8*	*5.1*	.2
June	320.8	295.8	246.3	49.5	24.9	*7.7*	*6.2*	.1
July	312.7	291.9	245.6	46.3	20.4	*6.5*	*5.8*	.4
August	317.3	296.1	245.2	50.9	20.6	*6.4*	*5.5*	.6
September	297.6	279.6	242.8	36.8	17.7	*5.9*	*5.4*	.3
October	288.5	271.4	241.0	30.4	17.0	*5.9*	*5.1*	.1
November	291.9	270.8	240.3	30.5	21.0	*7.2*	*4.9*	.1
December	296.6	268.2	240.6	27.6	28.3	*9.5*	*4.7*	.1
1972 Avg.	297.8	275.0	239.2	35.8	22.7	*7.6*	*5.6*	.1
1973								
January	285.4	259.1	234.7	24.4	26.2	*9.2*	*5.5*	.1
February	286.4	259.9	235.3	24.6	26.5	*9.2*		
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1957*

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent#* County	State	
1971								
January	29.4	27.4	26.5	.9	2.0	*6.8*	*8.8*	0
February	29.7	27.6	26.7	.9	2.1	*7.1*	*9.0*	0
March	30.2	28.2	27.0	1.2	2.0	*6.6*	*8.3*	0
April	31.2	29.4	27.8	1.6	1.8	*5.8*	*7.0*	0
May	31.7	30.0	28.4	1.6	1.7	*5.4*	*5.8*	0
June	33.3	30.9	28.7	2.2	2.3	*6.9*	*7.1*	.1
July	32.1	28.6	26.8	1.8	2.1	*6.5*	*6.2*	1.4
August	32.3	28.9	27.1	1.8	2.0	*6.2*	*5.9*	1.4
September	31.6	28.3	27.2	1.1	1.9	*6.0*	*5.7*	1.4
October	31.0	29.5	28.7	.8	1.5	*4.8*	*5.3*	0
November	31.1	29.4	28.5	.9	1.7	*5.5*	*6.2*	0
December	31.2	29.3	28.3	1.0	1.9	*6.1*	*7.2*	0
1971 Avg.	31.1	28.9	27.6	1.3	1.9	*6.1*	*6.9*	.3
1972								
January	30.4	28.1	27.2	.9	2.3	*7.6*	*9.3*	0
February	30.6	28.3	27.4	.9	2.3	*7.5*	*9.3*	0
March	31.1	29.1	27.9	1.2	2.0	*6.4*	*8.8*	0
April	32.2	30.4	28.8	1.6	1.8	*5.6*	*7.5*	0
May	32.4	30.7	29.1	1.6	1.7	*5.2*	*6.8*	0
June	34.3	31.6	29.5	2.1	2.7	*7.9*	*7.7*	0
July	33.2	30.9	29.0	1.9	2.3	*6.9*	*6.5*	*
August	33.1	30.8	28.6	2.2	2.3	*6.9*	*6.4*	*
September	32.3	30.1	28.5	1.6	2.2	*6.8*	*5.9*	*
October	32.1	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.1	*6.5*	*5.9*	0
November	32.3	29.9	28.3	1.6	2.4	*7.4*	*7.2*	*
December	32.1	29.5	28.0	1.5	2.6	*8.1*	*9.5*	*
1972 Avg.	32.2	29.9	28.4	1.5	2.3	*7.1*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	31.8	28.9	27.6	1.3	2.9	*9.1*	*9.2*	*
February	32.0	29.1	27.8	1.3	2.9	*9.1*	*9.2*	
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

\# *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1962*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent#* County	State	
1971								
January	35.6	33.2	32.1	1.1	2.4	*6.7*	*8.8*	*
February	36.2	33.6	32.2	1.4	2.6	*7.2*	*9.0*	*
March	36.5	33.9	32.7	1.2	2.6	*7.1*	*8.3*	*
April	37.4	35.3	33.5	1.8	2.1	*5.6*	*7.0*	*
May	38.4	36.5	34.4	2.1	1.9	*4.9*	*5.8*	0
June	39.4	36.8	35.0	1.8	2.6	*6.6*	*7.1*	0
July	39.5	37.2	35.1	2.1	2.3	*5.8*	*6.2*	0
August	39.2	37.0	35.0	2.0	2.2	*5.6*	*5.9*	0
September	38.7	36.6	35.2	1.4	2.1	*5.4*	*5.7*	0
October	38.7	37.0	36.0	1.0	1.7	*4.4*	*5.3*	0
November	39.4	37.1	35.9	1.2	2.3	*5.8*	*6.2*	0
December	39.0	36.6	35.6	1.0	2.4	*6.2*	*7.2*	0
1971 Avg.	38.2	35.9	34.4	1.5	2.3	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
1972								
January	37.7	35.0	33.8	1.2	2.7	*7.2*	*9.3*	0
February	38.0	35.2	34.2	1.0	2.8	*7.4*	*9.3*	0
March	39.1	36.3	34.9	1.4	2.8	*7.2*	*8.8*	0
April	39.6	37.4	35.8	1.6	2.2	*5.6*	*7.5*	*
May	40.1	37.8	36.3	1.5	2.3	*5.7*	*6.8*	*
June	42.9	39.9	37.3	2.6	3.0	*7.0*	*7.7*	*
July	42.7	40.1	37.3	2.8	2.6	*6.1*	*6.5*	*
August	42.8	40.3	37.3	3.0	2.5	*5.8*	*6.4*	*
September	41.7	39.5	37.3	2.2	2.2	*5.3*	*5.9*	*
October	41.8	39.8	38.1	1.7	2.0	*4.8*	*5.9*	*
November	42.0	39.6	38.0	1.6	2.4	*5.7*	*7.2*	*
December	41.5	39.0	37.6	1.4	2.5	*6.0*	*9.5*	*
1972 Avg.	40.8	38.3	36.5	1.8	2.5	*6.1*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	40.6	37.7	36.2	1.5	2.9	*7.1*	*9.2*	*
February	40.9	37.9	36.6	1.3	3.0	*7.3*	*9.2*	
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

\# *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers* *Series began January 1962*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

JANUARY 1973

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972	Net Changes to Current Month from: Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972
1. Civilian Work Force	285.4	296.6	279.9	-11.2	5.5
2. Unemployment	26.2	28.3	26.0	-2.1	.2
Percent of Work Force	*9.2*	*9.5*	*9.3*	*-.3*	*-.1*
3. Employment, Total	259.1	268.2	253.8	-9.1	5.3
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary	208.1	213.2	202.8	-5.1	5.3
MANUFACTURING	24.7	25.2	24.8	-.5	-.1
Durable Goods	15.9	16.4	16.3	-.5	-.4
24 Lumber and Wood Products	9.0	9.5	8.8	-.5	.2
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.4	4.6	.1	-1.1
Other Durable Goods	3.4	3.5	2.9	-.1	.5
Nondurable Goods	8.8	8.8	8.5	0	.3
20 Food and Kindred Products	4.4	4.4	4.3	0	.1
27 Printing and Publishing	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	.1
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.3	0	.1
NONMANUFACTURING	183.4	188.0	178.0	-4.6	5.4
Mining	6.4	6.4	6.0	0	.4
10 Metal Mining	3.9	3.8	3.5	.1	.4
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Nonmetal Mining	.9	.9	.8	0	.1
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	1.6	1.7	1.7	-.1	-.1

Contract Construction	8.1	8.3	8.9	-.2	-.8
15 General Building Contractors	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	-.1
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	2.3	2.4	3.3	-.1	-1.0
17 Special Trade Contractors	3.5	3.6	3.2	-.1	.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	17.5	17.5	17.5	0	0
40 Railroad Transportation	6.3	6.3	6.3	0	0
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	4.8	4.8	4.9	0	-.1
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	6.4	6.4	6.3	0	.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	50.5	53.4	48.2	-2.9	2.3
Wholesale Trade	10.6	10.7	10.1	-.1	.5
Retail Trade	39.9	42.7	38.1	-2.8	1.8
53 & 56 Ret. Gen. Merch., Apparel, Accessories	7.0	8.0	7.1	-1.0	-.1
54 Food Stores	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	.1
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	8.4	8.5	8.1	-.1	.3
58 Eating and Drinking Places	10.8	11.6	9.6	-.8	1.2
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	7.9	8.8	7.6	-.9	.3
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	9.0	9.0	8.5	0	.5
Services	36.7	36.8	35.0	-.1	1.7
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	4.3	4.4	3.6	-.1	.7
72 Personal Services	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	-.1
80 Medical and other Health Services	12.3	12.4	12.0	-.1	.3
Other Services	17.8	17.7	17.0	.1	.8
Government	55.2	56.6	53.9	-1.4	1.3
91 Federal Government	11.2	11.6	11.1	-.4	.1
92 & 93 State and Local Government	44.0	45.0	42.8	-1.0	1.2
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[1/]	26.6	27.4	25.9	-.8	.7
(c) Agriculture	24.4	27.6	25.1	-3.2	-.7
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes	.1	.1	.1	0	0

1/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks. *Series began January 1964.*

Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

MONTANA STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Employment by Industry

JANUARY 1973

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972	Net Changes to Current Month from: Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972
GREAT FALLS (CASCADE COUNTY)					
1. Civilian Work Force	31.8	32.1	30.4	-.3	1.4
2. Unemployment	2.9	2.6	2.3	.3	.6
Percent of Work Force	*9.1*	*8.1*	*7.6*	*1.0*	*1.5*
3. Employment, Total	28.9	29.5	28.1	-.6	.8
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary	25.4	25.8	25.1	-.4	.3
MANUFACTURING	2.1	2.1	2.9	0	-.8
NONMANUFACTURING	23.3	23.7	22.2	-.4	1.1
Contract Construction	1.2	1.3	1.0	-.1	.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7.3	7.6	7.0	-.3	.3
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	.2
Services and Mining	5.0	5.0	4.9	0	.1
Government	5.8	5.8	5.5	0	.3
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[1/]	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	.1
(c) Agriculture	1.3	1.5	.9	-.2	.4
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes	*	*	0	-	-

1/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

* *Under 50.*

Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks. *Series began January 1950.*

Table VI

MONTANA STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Employment by Industry

JANUARY 1973

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972	Net Changes to Current Month from: Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972
BILLINGS (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)					
1. Civilian Work Force	40.6	41.5	37.7	-.9	2.9
2. Unemployment	2.9	2.5	2.7	.4	.2
Percent of Work Force	*7.1*	*6.0*	*7.2*	*1.1*	*-.1*
3. Employment, Total	37.7	39.0	35.0	-1.3	2.7
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary	32.3	33.5	30.2	-1.2	2.1
MANUFACTURING	3.7	3.9	3.5	-.2	.2
NONMANUFACTURING	28.6	29.6	26.7	-1.0	1.9
Contract Construction	1.5	1.6	1.5	-.1	0
Transportation and Public Utilities	3.0	3.1	2.9	-.1	.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	9.9	10.4	9.2	-.5	.7
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	.2
Services and Mining	6.5	6.5	5.9	0	.6
Government	5.9	6.2	5.6	-.3	.3
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[1/]	3.9	4.1	3.6	-.2	.3
(c) Agriculture	1.5	1.4	1.2	.1	.3
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes	*	*	0	-	-

1/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

* *Under 50.*

Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks. *Series began January 1958.*

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX LEADING INDICATORS*

Composite Index of
SIX LEADING INDICATORS
1967 = 100

1972	
January	107.8
February	102.0
March	97.4
April	117.1
May	104.7
June	101.7
July	99.3
August	96.2
September	93.8
October	103.5
November	108.3
December	93.9
1973	
January	101.0
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

MONTANA'S ECONOMY

The final figures for December 1972 fell far below the preliminary estimate. This was due to the unexpected increase in layoff, decrease in average weekly hours in manufacturing and the increase in average weekly initial claims. The other three indicators maintained their expected trends.

Preliminary data for January and February 1973 show an upswing in the composite index. Barring any unforeseen events, the first quarter of 1973 should see moderate improvement over the same period of one year ago.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*

Table VII

MONTANA CIVILIAN WORK FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* Montana	U. S.	
1971								
January	287.4	267.3	233.4	33.9	19.7	*6.9*	*6.0*	.4
February	291.0	270.8	235.6	35.2	19.8	*6.8*	*5.8*	.4
March	290.4	271.5	237.5	34.0	18.9	*6.5*	*6.0*	*
April	292.7	273.6	236.4	37.2	19.1	*6.5*	*6.1*	*
May	293.2	274.7	237.5	37.2	18.5	*6.3*	*6.2*	*
June	292.4	273.2	237.6	35.6	19.1	*6.5*	*5.6*	.1
July	295.2	268.9	233.2	35.7	20.5	*6.9*	*5.8*	5.8
August	298.3	269.9	233.6	36.3	22.6	*7.6*	*6.1*	5.8
September	298.1	269.8	235.0	34.8	22.5	*7.5*	*6.0*	5.8
October	293.2	271.7	240.7	31.0	21.4	*7.3*	*5.8*	.1
November	297.8	278.7	243.6	35.1	19.0	*6.4*	*6.0*	.1
December	300.5	279.1	243.3	35.8	21.3	*7.1*	*6.0*	.1
1971 Avg.	294.2	272.5	237.3	35.2	20.2	*6.9*	*5.9*	1.5
1972								
January	297.3	275.5	240.9	34.6	21.7	*7.3*	*5.9*	.1
February	298.4	277.0	242.1	34.9	21.3	*7.1*	*5.7*	.1
March	301.5	280.5	245.7	34.8	20.9	*6.9*	*5.9*	.1
April	301.9	280.7	241.9	38.8	21.1	*7.0*	*5.9*	.1
May	300.5	278.1	240.6	37.5	22.2	*7.4*	*5.9*	.2
June	294.8	273.5	236.4	37.1	21.2	*7.2*	*5.5*	.1
July	289.4	267.8	234.6	33.2	21.2	*7.3*	*5.5*	.4
August	296.5	271.2	232.6	38.6	24.7	*8.3*	*5.6*	.6
September	297.3	273.4	233.9	39.5	23.6	*7.9*	*5.5*	.3
October	293.8	269.9	238.1	31.8	23.8	*8.1*	*5.5*	.1
November	297.0	274.9	240.8	34.1	22.0	*7.4*	*5.2*	.1
December	306.2	277.2	243.0	34.2	28.9	*9.4*	*5.1*	.1
1972 Avg.	297.8	275.0	239.2	35.8	22.7	*7.6*	*5.6*	.1
1973								
January	303.6	281.6	247.3	34.3	21.9	*7.2*	*5.0*	.1
February	304.6	283.1	248.5	34.6	21.5	*7.1*		
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*
Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1957*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table VIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* County	State	
1971								
January	30.8	29.1	28.0	1.1	1.7	*5.5*	*6.9*	0
February	30.9	29.1	28.0	1.1	1.8	*5.8*	*6.8*	0
March	31.2	29.4	28.0	1.4	1.8	*5.8*	*6.5*	0
April	31.6	29.8	28.2	1.6	1.8	*5.7*	*6.5*	0
May	31.6	29.9	28.3	1.6	1.7	*5.4*	*6.3*	0
June	31.6	29.6	27.6	2.0	1.9	*6.0*	*6.5*	.1
July	30.7	27.2	25.9	1.3	2.1	*6.8*	*6.9*	1.4
August	31.2	27.5	26.1	1.4	2.3	*7.4*	*7.6*	1.4
September	31.4	27.7	26.5	1.2	2.3	*7.3*	*7.5*	1.4
October	31.1	29.2	28.4	.8	1.9	*6.1*	*7.3*	0
November	31.1	29.3	28.4	.9	1.8	*5.8*	*6.4*	0
December	31.8	29.7	28.6	1.1	2.1	*6.6*	*7.1*	0
1971 Avg.	31.1	28.9	27.6	1.3	1.9	*6.1*	*6.9*	.3
1972								
January	31.8	29.8	28.7	1.1	2.0	*6.3*	*7.3*	0
February	31.8	29.8	28.7	1.1	2.0	*6.3*	*7.1*	0
March	32.1	30.3	28.9	1.4	1.8	*5.6*	*6.9*	0
April	32.6	30.8	29.2	1.6	1.8	*5.5*	*7.0*	0
May	32.3	30.6	29.0	1.6	1.7	*5.3*	*7.4*	0
June	32.6	30.3	28.4	1.9	2.3	*7.1*	*7.2*	0
July	31.9	29.6	28.1	1.5	2.3	*7.2*	*7.3*	*
August	31.9	29.3	27.6	1.7	2.6	*8.2*	*8.3*	*
September	32.1	29.4	27.7	1.7	2.7	*8.4*	*7.9*	*
October	32.5	29.8	28.3	1.5	2.7	*8.3*	*8.1*	0
November	32.3	29.8	28.2	1.6	2.5	*7.7*	*7.4*	*
December	32.7	29.9	28.3	1.6	2.8	*8.6*	*9.4*	*
1972 Avg.	32.2	29.9	28.4	1.5	2.3	*7.1*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	33.2	30.7	29.1	1.6	2.5	*7.5*	*7.2*	*
February	33.2	30.7	29.1	1.6	2.5	*7.5*	*7.1*	
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*
Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1969*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table IX

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Work Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Work Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* County	State	
1971								
January	37.1	35.0	33.3	1.7	2.1	*5.7*	*6.9*	*
February	37.7	35.5	33.4	2.1	2.2	*5.8*	*6.8*	*
March	37.6	35.3	33.8	1.5	2.3	*6.1*	*6.5*	*
April	37.8	35.6	33.8	1.8	2.2	*5.8*	*6.5*	*
May	38.2	36.1	34.2	1.9	2.1	*5.5*	*6.3*	0
June	37.2	35.2	34.2	1.0	2.0	*5.4*	*6.5*	0
July	38.6	36.3	34.6	1.7	2.3	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
August	38.4	36.0	34.2	1.8	2.4	*6.3*	*7.6*	0
September	39.0	36.5	34.9	1.6	2.5	*6.4*	*7.5*	0
October	38.5	36.2	35.3	.9	2.3	*6.0*	*7.3*	0
November	39.2	36.7	35.5	1.2	2.5	*6.4*	*6.4*	0
December	39.1	36.6	35.3	1.3	2.5	*6.4*	*7.1*	0
1971 Avg.	38.2	35.9	34.4	1.5	2.3	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
1972								
January	39.4	37.0	35.1	1.9	2.4	*6.1*	*7.3*	0
February	39.3	37.0	35.5	1.5	2.3	*5.9*	*7.1*	0
March	40.3	37.9	36.1	1.8	2.4	*6.0*	*6.9*	0
April	40.1	37.8	36.2	1.6	2.3	*5.7*	*7.0*	*
May	39.9	37.4	36.1	1.3	2.5	*6.3*	*7.4*	*
June	40.3	38.0	36.5	1.5	2.3	*5.7*	*7.2*	*
July	41.6	39.0	36.7	2.3	2.6	*6.3*	*7.3*	*
August	41.9	39.1	36.4	2.7	2.8	*6.7*	*8.3*	*
September	42.1	39.5	37.0	2.5	2.6	*6.2*	*7.9*	*
October	41.6	38.9	37.4	1.5	2.7	*6.5*	*8.1*	*
November	41.7	39.1	37.5	1.6	2.6	*6.2*	*7.4*	*
December	41.6	39.0	37.2	1.8	2.6	*6.3*	*9.4*	*
1972 Avg.	40.8	38.3	36.5	1.8	2.5	*6.1*	*7.6*	*
1973								
January	42.5	39.9	37.5	2.4	2.6	*6.1*	*7.2*	*
February	42.3	39.8	37.9	1.9	2.5	*5.9*	*7.1*	
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* *Under 50* *Current month forecast* *Previous month preliminary*

Revised to 1972 Benchmarks *Series began January 1969*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table X

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

JANUARY 1973

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972	Jan 1973	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972	Jan. 1973	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1972
TOTAL PRIVATE	$127.35	$128.41	$121.48	36.7	36.9	36.7	$3.47	$3.48	$3.31
MANUFACTURING	164.83	167.28	159.17	40.3	41.0	40.5	4.09	4.08	3.93
Durable Goods	167.69	167.68	157.17	40.9	41.3	40.3	4.10	4.06	3.90
Primary Metal Industries	168.47	168.47	141.09	40.4	40.4	35.9	4.17	4.17	3.93
Nondurable Goods	159.92	166.03	163.61	39.1	40.2	40.8	4.09	4.12	4.01
Food and Kindred Products	150.84	154.61	160.82	41.1	41.9	43.7	3.67	3.69	3.68
MINING	182.29	181.89	187.89	40.6	40.6	42.8	4.49	4.48	4.39
Metal Mining	186.59	186.59	195.17	40.3	40.3	42.8	4.63	4.63	4.56
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION*	220.70	225.27	196.42	36.3	35.7	34.4	6.08	6.31	5.71
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	187.53	188.67	168.82	39.9	40.4	40.1	4.70	4.67	4.21
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	164.19	164.51	157.61	39.0	38.8	39.6	4.21	4.24	3.98
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	105.65	106.55	99.88	35.1	35.4	34.8	3.01	3.01	2.87
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	101.49	100.47	98.39	39.8	39.4	39.2	2.55	2.55	2.51
SERVICES	87.38	87.30	83.89	34.0	34.1	34.1	2.57	2.56	2.46

* *Strongly affected downward in December 1972 and January 1973 due to adverse weather during survey week.*
Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table XI

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

DECEMBER 1972

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971
MANUFACTURING	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.6	4.1	3.6	3.1	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.9	1.7	.9
Durable Goods	2.8	2.5	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.7	5.0	4.3	3.5	1.6	2.2	1.8	2.5	1.3	1.0
Primary Metal Industries	1.8	1.1	1.8	.7	.4	.3	3.8	2.6	1.8	1.7	.8	1.0	.4	1.0	*
Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.5	1.4	2.5	2.3	2.4	1.4	.9	1.0	.7	.7	.7
MINING	5.7	6.7	3.3	4.6	4.1	1.5	3.6	5.6	6.1	1.6	2.2	2.3	0	.2	2.8
Metal Mining	4.3	7.6	3.6	3.6	3.4	1.0	3.4	7.8	3.2	1.6	3.0	1.9	.5	.2	*

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

Table XII

MONTANA JOB VACANCY RATES

In Selected Industries

(Percent)

DECEMBER 1972

	Dec. 1972	Nov. 1972	Dec. 1971
MANUFACTURING	.1	.1	.2
Durable Goods	.1	.1	.3
Primary Metal Industries	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	*	*	.1
MINING	*	*	*

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1970.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

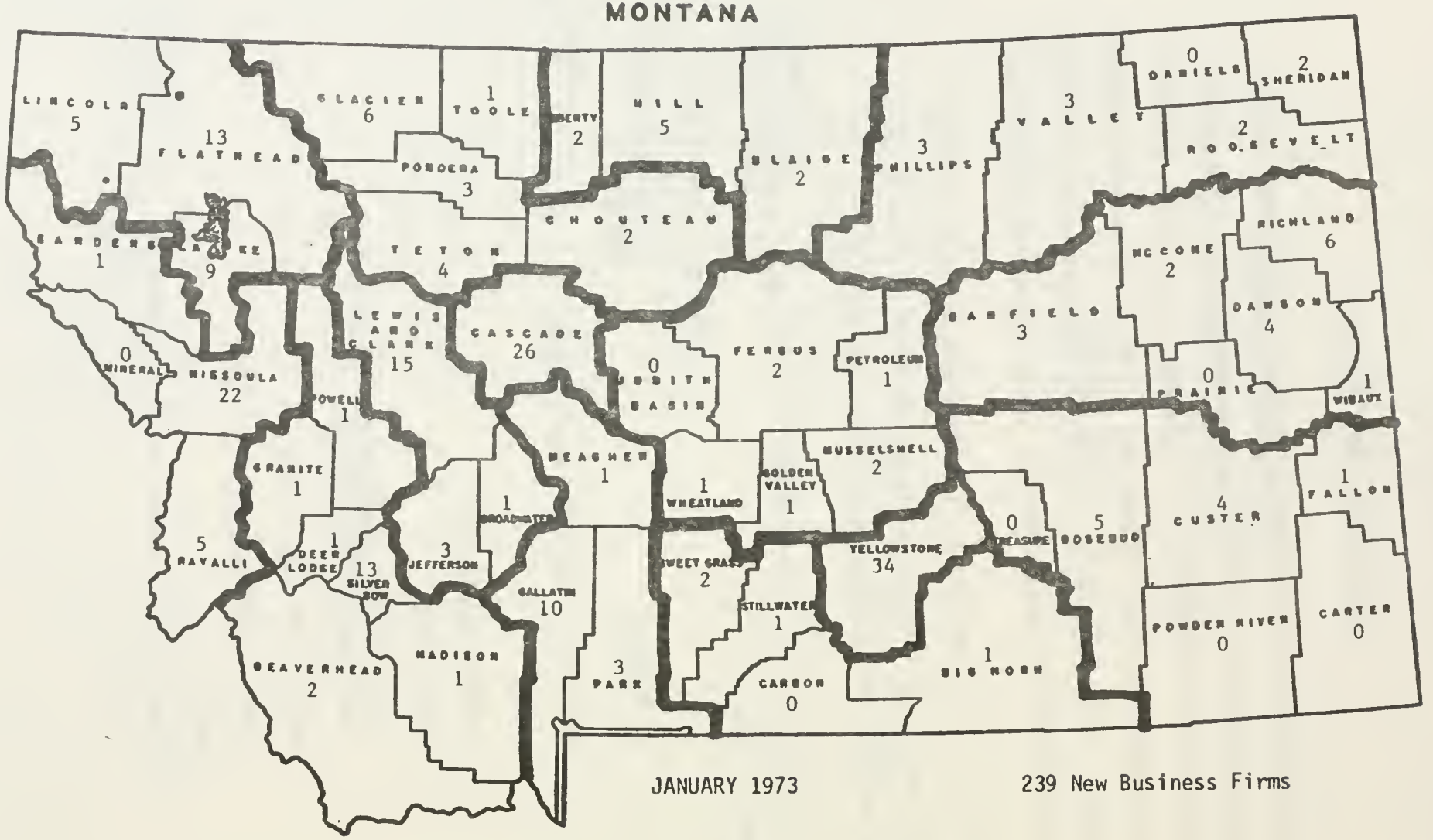
New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following map are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. It is presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The map on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts during the month of January, 1973. Labor market areas are designated by the dark outline.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses in Montana in January by industry:

Industry	Number
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	35
MINING	0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	19
MANUFACTURING	10
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	18
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	48
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	25
SERVICES	84
TOTAL	239

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS
IN
MONTANA



JANUARY 1973

239 New Business Firms

Source of Data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS

WITH COUNTIES INCLUDED IN EACH AREA

ANACONDA-BUTTE AREA

Beaverhead
Deer Lodge
Granite
Madison
Powell
Silver Bow

BOZEMAN AREA

Gallatin
Meagher
Park

GLASGOW AREA

Daniels
Phillips
Roosevelt
Sheridan
Valley

GLENDIVE AREA

Dawson
Garfield
McCone
Prairie
Richland
Wibaux

HARDIN-RED LODGE AREA

Big Horn
Carbon
Stillwater
Sweet Grass

HAVRE AREA

Blaine
Hill
Liberty

HELENA AREA

Broadwater
Jefferson
Lewis and Clark

KALISPELL AREA

Flathead
Lake
Lincoln

LEWISTOWN AREA

Fergus
Golden Valley
Judith Basin
Musselshell
Petroleum
Wheatland

MILES CITY AREA

Carter
Custer
Fallon
Powder River
Rosebud
Treasure

MISSOULA AREA

Mineral
Missoula
Ravalli
Sanders

SHELBY AREA

Chouteau
Glacier
Pondera
Teton
Toole

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Mr. Joe Kasperick
Montana College of Mineral
Science & Technology
Butte, Montana 59701

The Montana State Employment Service maintains 23 local employment offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.